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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Friday, September 17, at 10 a.m.

## Senate

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1999

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Today's prayer will be offered by our guest Chaplain, Rev. J.C. Williams, Martinez, GA.

### PRAYER

The guest Chaplain, Rev. J.C. Williams, Chaplain Corps, U.S. Navy (Retired), offered the following prayer:

Let us bow our heads in prayer.

Almighty God, to whom we must account for all our powers and privileges, grant the Senators and their staffs strength to know and do Your will. Remind us this day that You are our chosen Leader and Lord, God of the way, the truth, and the life, who chose to journey with Abraham and Sarah, Joseph and Mary, and all the heroes and heroines of faith.

Loving God, we humbly pray that You will journey with this Nation and Your servants. Send Your guardian angel to be their guide as they perform their duties on behalf of all people of this great Nation. Preserve and defend these men and women and their families from every assault and insult, visible and invisible.

Dear God, in all the troubled moments, pressures of this day, and needs that are yet unmet, we seek Your presence, comfort, and wisdom. Merciful God, continue to keep the men and women in this sacred Chamber in peace and health; and may they hear You whisper to them, "Well done, well done, well done." Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MIKE CRAPO, a Senator from the State of Idaho, led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CRAPO). The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. LOTT. I thank the Chair.

### HURRICANE FLOYD

Mr. LOTT. It is always great to see our distinguished President pro tempore, Senator THURMOND, here and opening the Senate proceedings. We are thankful this morning that his State was spared the kind of devastation it seemed to be facing just a couple of days ago. It looks as if the hurricane has dropped in power and there has not been the damage and devastation that was expected from the hurricane, although certainly there are people this morning who are very uncomfortable without power and there have been some lives—I believe a couple—lost as a result of accidents.

I am from a hurricane-prone State, Mr. President. I have lived through three major ones, including one last September, so I know how difficult it can be for those who have had to endure this experience. So I don't take bad weather lightly. But we have been

watching very closely the path of this hurricane and its strength and where it is headed. I spoke early this morning to the Sergeant at Arms, Mr. Ziglar, and to Senator BARBARA MIKULSKI. Typically, Senator MIKULSKI calls and says, "I am coming, unless you say don't come." I told her to come. We believe that while we are going to have some wind and rain today, the brunt of the hurricane has been diminished and it will go east of this area. So the Senate will go forward.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this week we have some legislation we must complete because we do have a Jewish holiday Monday and Tuesday, with the first vote not occurring until next Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. Then we have to do the HUD and Veterans appropriations bill next week, which I am sure will take at least the remainder of that week, 3 days.

So here is what we have to do today and tomorrow if necessary. We will vote at 10:10 on the Treasury-Postal Service appropriations conference report. We hope to be able to stack at that time a second vote on the Transportation appropriations bill now pending before the Senate. Senator SHELBY is here and working on an amendment or amendments we may have to deal with. So we will just have to see how that is going to work out. But we want to complete all amendments and have final passage on the Transportation appropriations bill, and probably we need to have a recorded vote on that so we will not be faced with having to find

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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